

This is the second edition of the surgical counterpart to the *Washington Manual of Medical Therapeutics*, the bible of the medical intern. It has been designed to be a quick reference handbook for the care of the surgical patient. The details of pathophysiology are intentionally excluded leaving the content to focus on diagnosis and therapy algorithms for surgical disease. Each chapter is set up in an efficient and logical outline form with key points accented in boldface text to facilitate ease and speed of use. It is also spirally bound and sized to fit in the pocket of a white coat.

The book begins with several chapters covering the general care of the surgical patient including principles of nutrition, fluids and electrolytes, shock, and ICU care. Next are chapters broken down by organ systems and subspecialty care. Lastly there is a chapter on common bedside surgical procedures with helpful illustrations.

This book is written by residents for residents. Each

chapter is authored by a member of the surgical house staff at Washington University assisted by an attending physician. A methodical approach to each system, however, is preserved throughout the book. All chapters have been revised since the first edition with the addition of a new chapter covering plastics and hand surgery.

Despite the limited space of a handbook, the authors have succeeded in creating a comprehensive yet succinct guide to the care of the surgical patient. It is an able counterpart to its medical companion and is recommended as an excellent resource for its intended audience of medical students and junior surgical house staff.

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BOOKS RECEIVED

The receipt of the books listed below is acknowledged. This listing is regarded as appropriate return for the courtesy of the sender. The books that are of particular interest will be reviewed and the review published as space permits.

Endothelium, nitric oxide and atherosclerosis

Julio Panza, Richard Cannon; Armonk; 1999; Futura; 320 pages; \$75.00.

Vascular disease: molecular biology and gene therapy protocols

Andrew Baker; Totawa; 1999; Humana Press; 441 pages; \$99.50.

Management of acute stroke

Ashfaq Shuaib, Larry Goldstein; New York; 1999; Marcel Dekker; 541 pages; \$175.00.

Medical management of liver disease

Edward L. Krawitt; New York; 1999; Marcel Dekker; 634 pages; \$185.00.